Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00049 170841Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 HA-05 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /087 W
----------028337 170846Z /14
R 161455Z JAN 78
FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6597
INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0049

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, SF
SUB: DEMOLITION OF UNIBEL SQUATTER CAMP BEGINS

SUMMARY: BANTU AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION BOARD (BAAB) OFFICIALS AND WORKMEN, ESCORTED BY ARMED POLICE GUARD, BEGAN DESTRUCTION OF UNIBEL SQUATTER CAMP OUTSIDE CAPE TOWN TODAY. SQUATTERS HAVE VOWED TO STAY UNTIL ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS OFFERED. POLICE REPORTEDLY HAVE ADMITTED VOLUNTEER MEDICAL PERSONNEL BUT HAVE REFUSED PERMISSION TO SEND FOOD SHIPMENTS INTO THE CAMP. END SUMMARY.

1. OFFICIALS AND WORKMEN USING A "FRONT-END LOADER" (ESSENTIALLY A SHOVEL-EQUIPPED BULLDOZER) BEGAN DESTRUCTION OF SHANTIES AT UNIBEL SQUATTER CAMP THIS MORNING PURSUANT TO EVICTION NOTICES ISSUED LAST WEEK (REFTEL).ARMED POLICE GUARDS WITH DOGS CORDONED THE CAMP DENYING ACCESS TO THE PUBLIC. JOURNALISTS, HOWEVER, WERE PERMITTED ENTRY.
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2. PRESS REPORTS OVER WEEKEND INDICATED THAT COMMUNITY LEADERS HAD REJECTED ADVICE BY TRANSKEI "CONSUL" HERE THAT THOSE WITHOUT PERMITS TO BE IN CAPE TOWN (MOST OF THE WIVES AND CHILDREN ARE IN THIS CATEGORY) ACCEPT THE BAAB'S OFFER OF FREE RAIL TRANSPORTATION TO THE TRANSKEI. SQUATTER LEADERS WERE QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THEY WOULD

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REMAIN AT UNIBEL UNTIL ALTERNATIVE AREA OFFERING
BOTH JOBS AND ACCOMODATIONS IS PROVIDED. TRANSKEI
CONSUL REPORTEDLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT BOTH JOBS AND FOOD
SCARCE IN TRANSKEI BUT SAID SQUATTERS WOULD BE BETTER
ADVISED TO GO TO TRANSKEI THAN TO REMAIN HERE ILLEGALLY.
HE ADDED THAT IN RECENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH SAG, TRANSKEI
OFFICIALS HAD MADE THE POINT THAT FAMILIES OF LEGALLY
QUALIFIED WORKERS SHOUL BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN. SINCE
THAT WOULD INCLUDE VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE SQUATTERS, HOWEVER,
IT IS CLEAR THAT SAG HAS NO INTENTION OF CEDING
THE POINT.

3. AN OFFICIALS OF CHURCH-FUNDED CAPE FLATS INTERIM
ACCOMODATION COMMITTEE(CFCIA)TOLD CONGENOFF TODAY
THAT FEW IF ANY OF THE ESTIMATED 15,000 SQUATTERS HAD
AS YET LEFT THE CAMP. HE SAID CONDITIONS WERE BOUND
TO GET WORSE, HOWEVER, SINCE POLICE, WHILE PERMITTING
VOLUNTEER MEDICAL PERSONNEL TO ENTER CAMP HAD SPECIFICALLY
REFUSED PERMISSION FOR CFCIA TO BRING IN FOOD. HE SAID
FEW OF LYE SQUATTER HOUSEHOLDS EVEN HAD PLASTIC SHEETS
UNDER WHICH TO SHELTER AND POLICE WILL NOT ALLOW THEIR
DISTRIBUTION BY SOCIAL WORKERS.

4. THERE HAVE BEEN NO RPT NO REPORTED CLASHES
BETWEEN POLICE AND SQUATTERS TO DATE BUT CFCIA OFFICIAL
REPORTED THAT MEMBER OF SQUATTER COMMITTEE OBSERVED
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POLICEMEN IN ACT OF BURNING DOWN TWO SHANTIES. AFTERNOON
PRESS REPORT20 CFCIA OFFICIALS ARE SKEPTICAL.
OBSERVERS REPORT THAT SQUATTER COMMITTEE IS DETERMINED AND
HAS WIDE SUPPORT AMONG UNIBELL RESIDENTS. WHETHER
CONDITIONS OF INCREASING HARDSHIP WILL LEAD TO ATTEMPTS
TO RESIST OR, AS IN PREVIOUS CASES TO DETERIORATING
MORALE AND EVENTUAL ABANDONMENT OF CAMP REMAINS TO BE
SEEN.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SQUATTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAPET00049
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780024-0620
Format: TEL
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780161/aaaabyzb.tel
Line Count: 104
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 189b63e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3771587
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEMOLITION OF UNIBEL SQUATTER CAMP BEGINS SUMMARY: BANTU AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION BOARD (BAAB) OFFICIALS AND WORKMEN, ESCORTED BY ARMED POLICE GU
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, SF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/189b63e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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